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SUBJECT: ABM Intelligence Study

The study group that we established in January of this year, for the purpose of recommending a cost-effective program for ABM needs, was given its impetus by the high priority the DCI accorded to the BoB request. To meet this sense of urgency, the group agreed to the following schedule.

Phase I	Identification of consumer information needs	30 March 1968
Phase II	Relate information needs to observables	15 April 1968
Phase III	Relate observables to collection systems	30 April 1968
Phase IV	Collector system costs and schedules	15 May 1968
Phase V	Alternative program comparisons	30 May 1968

Thus, as of this date, Phases I through III were to have been completed.

In fact, however, although work is in progress on the three phases, no one of them has as yet been completed. This slippage undoubtedly stems from the complexity of the problem, the exigencies with which the participants are normally faced, and, probably most fundamentally, from a failure to communicate the priority placed upon a solution to the problem.

I suggest, therefore, that the schedule be redrawn and prepare the following.

Phase I	Identification of consumer information needs	24 May 1968
Phase II	Relate information needs to observables	24 May 1968
Phase III	Relate observables to collection systems	7 June 1968
Phase IV	Collector system costs and schedules	7 June 1968
Phase V	Alternative program comparisons	21 June 1968

You will note that this prepared schedule still calls for the same rapid pace, but makes allowance for the month or so that we are behind. Consequently, it is based on the assumption that the higher priority required will be accorded by each of the participants.

I would appreciate your views as to the feasibility of meeting such a schedule at this time.

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